たいようのいえ

1

House of the sun.
by Taamo

タアモ

KC Dessert

講談社

KCD
622
デザート

たいようのいえ

House of the sun. 1

タアモ

講談社

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KCデザート

そこはむかし魔法のような家で
泣いてても笑っちゃう
ような場所で……
今、この家に
帰ってこなきゃ
いけないのが
すごくすごくうれしい——。

House of the sun.

子供の頃、むかいの基の家に入りびたっていた真魚。
その家に行くと必ず元気になれたから。
数年後…父の再婚で家に居場所がなくなった真魚は、
両親を亡くして以来、独りで家を守る基の家に
住まわせてもらうことになったけれど…!?

年の差幼なじみ2人の明るく切ない同居スタート♡

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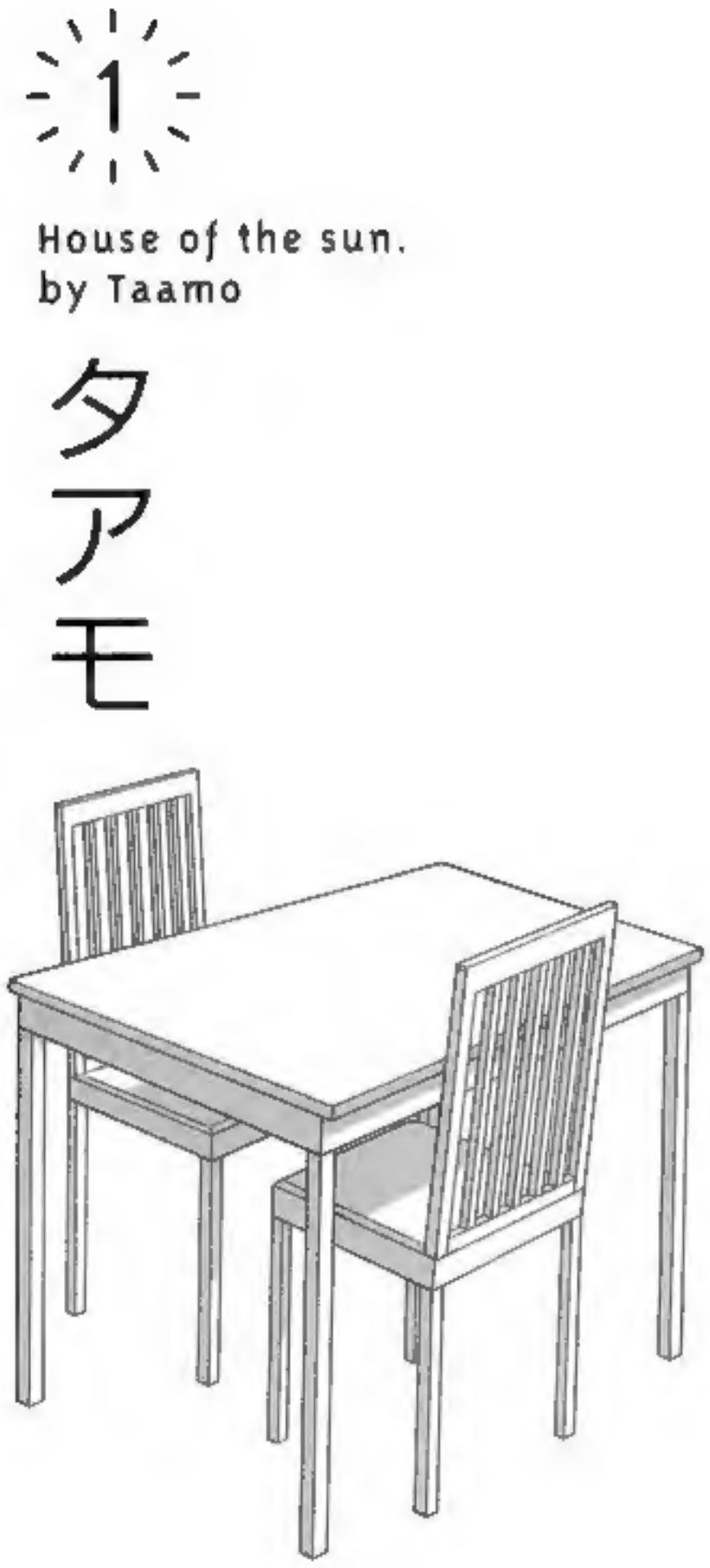

ONE OF MANY TRANSLATION PROJECTS FROM

Mixini Studios

#MIXINI @ IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

HTTP://MIXINI.CO.CC/

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CHAPTER ONE

Lonesome boy & lonesome girl

はじめまして　タアモと申します。
「たいようのいえ」
1巻お買い上げ有難うございました！
中二男子のような女の子と
お母さんのような男の子を描こうと奮闘中です
どうぞよろしくお願いします～！
タアモ

Back in the day, this place
そこは　むかし

Was like a house of magic
魔法のような家で

A place so filled with both tears and laughter
泣いてても 笑っちゃうような場所で

Surely
きっと

There must've been a wizard living here
目に見えない魔法使いが

One invisible to our eyes
住んでるんだって

Or so I used to think
ずっと 思ってた

I NEED YOU TO HEAL ME!

GO GO GO! GO FOR THE COMBO!

NOT SO FAST!

WHOO! I'M GONNA SET THE HIGH SCORE!

DO YOUR BEST, BOTH OF YOU!

SFX: Kick!

ボッ

ボッ!!!

OOF!

OWW!

IT'S TIME I SHOW YOU MY MOVES!!

OH HEY MAGYO, ARE YOU STAYING FOR DINNER TONIGHT?

Uh...

YOU GUYS ARE *STILL* PLAYING VIDEO GAMES?

ENOUGH ALREADY!

WA! IT'S HIRO-NII!

プンプン

I'M NOT MAGYO! I'M MAO!

BAH, WHATEVER. ISN'T "MAGYO" A CUTE NAME TOO?

ANYWAY, YOU EATING WITH US?

.....

...NOPE. FORGET IT.

OH, C'MON, DON'T BE MAD. COME EAT WITH US!

NO! AND I'M NOT MAD!

LET'S EAT!

EAT YOUR FISH! YOU NEVER SEEM TO FINISH IT.

OKAYYY

MOM, WHERE'S THE SALAD DRESSING?

GO GET IT YOURSELF.

→GULP←

MY MOM IS WAITING FOR ME AT HOME, SO I THINK I SHOULD GO BACK...

→TWITCH←

→TWITCH←

MAO-CHAN, AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT SOMETHING?

HM? IS SOMETHING WRONG?

MMKAY?

WELL, YOU'RE WELCOME TO COME OVER TO PLAY ANYTIME.

AH, I SEE.

ARE RARELY HOME.

MY PARENTS

480円

Microwave before eating!

I'M HOME..

"Mommy and Daddy are working for Mao's sake."

=BITE=

Beep? I thought microwaves go "ding" .

beep
beep
beep

THAT'S RIGHT. MOM AND DAD ARE WORKING FOR MY SAKE.

TROT TROT TROT

WELCOME BACK!

GETS UP

I'M HOME.

UHH ..?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE HAVING DINNER WITH THE NAKAMURA FAMILY AGAIN.

OH SHOOT. YOU'RE HOME ALREADY.

YOU MEAN YOU *ATE* IT, RIGHT!?

DON'T TALK LIKE YOUR DAD!

BUT MOM PREPARED BENTO BOX FOR ME

SO I HEATED IT IN THE MICROWAVE AND GULPED IT.

AH! YOU SHOULDN'T COME IN...

WHAT'S WRONG?

.....

SORRY...

THIS IS SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T ASK ABOUT.

DEFINITELY SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T ASK ABOUT.

THIS MAN HERE...

WHO'S THAT?

THAT'S NOT MY DAD...

HE IS MOMMY'S NEXT WEDDING PARTNER!

IT'S MAO, STUPID!!

...MAGYO.

THEN JUST CALL ME MAO!

OKAY, OKAY, MAO-SAMA, MAO-SAMA.

GEEZ, HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP CORRECTING ME?

OWW.

AND WHY ARE YOU SITTING SO CLOSE TO ME!? SCOOT OVER!!

DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE I'M STUPID

OKAY THEN, I'M LEECHING YOUR BODY WARMTH!

I WANT TO PLAY ON MY DS HERE.

YOU CAN STILL DO THAT WITHOUT BEING SO CLOSE!!

SO WHAT DID YOU BUY AT THE STORE TODAY?

IF YOU'RE COLD, WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO HOME?

.....

ぴぃぃぃぃーん

ぴぃぃぃぃーん

...it's warm ..

I THINK MY MOM AND DAD ARE GETTING A DIVORCE.

BUT WHOEVER I CHOOSE, I'D HAVE TO MOVE SOMEWHERE ELSE.

I GET TO CHOOSE IF I WANT TO GO WITH MY DAD OR MY MOM.

MMN.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR CHOICES, WHY NOT LIVE AT MY PLACE?

WHO'D WANT TO LIVE WITH YOU!? IDIOT!

IN TRUTH, WHAT HE SAID

MADE ME EXTREMELY GLAD.

I WANTED TO SAY TO HIM, "THANKS"

BUT I SWALLOWED IT BACK,
BECAUSE I WAS TOO SHY.

OKAY, WELL, I'LL COME BACK TO VISIT YOU FROM TIME TO TIME, MAO.

INSTEAD, I CHOSE MY DAD, WHO SAID PRACTICALLY NOTHING THIS ENTIRE TIME.

IN THE END, I DID NOT GO WITH MY MOM, WHO HAD WITH HER A MAN I DID NOT KNOW.

I WAS AN UNLOVED CHILD, AND THAT PLACE ACCEPTED ME, WHENEVER AND WHEREVER. THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

MY DAD AND I MOVED TO A NEW HOUSE TWO STATIONS WAY, BUT THAT ONLY MADE ME ENJOY MY TIME WITH THE NAKAMURA FAMILY EVEN MORE.

THEN MY PUNISHMENT CAME.

中村家
告別式場
中村家
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THE CASE
DON'T THEY HAVE GRAND-PARENTS?
I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER THE SAME THING
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEIR KIDS?
I SEE. SO IT WAS AN ACCIDENT

SAYS HE'S PROTECTING THE HOUSE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT. THAT BOY'S NOT LISTENING TO ANYONE.

THE ONLY ONE LEFT AT THE NAKAMURA HOUSE IS THEIR ELDEST SON, HIRO-KUN.

HIS RELATIVES HAVE ALREADY ADOPTED HIS TWO YOUNGER SIBLINGS.

I MUST ADMIT, IT'S KIND OF SAD TO SEE EVERYONE HEADING OFF IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

IN MY MIND, THIS WAS THE LAST REAL CONVERSATION I HAD WITH MY DAD.

ACHOO!

SEVERAL YEARS SINCE THEN

YOU SNEEZED AGAIN!

IN THE SPRING WHEN I WAS SEVENTEEN

LOOKING AT THE SUNLIGHT ALWAYS MAKES ME SNEEZE.

DOESN'T IT HAPPEN TO YOU?

NOT AT ALL~

Fun fact: look up "photic sneeze reflex"

HM? HE ALREADY DID.

SO YOUR DAD IS REMARRYING SOON, RIGHT?

OH YEAH... YOU DID MENTION YOUR STEPMOM BRINGING ALONG HER OWN KID...

BYE!

WELL, ANYWAY, SEE YA!

WHA!?

Y-YOU READ THAT STUFF?

Y'KNOW, YOUR SITUATION TOTALLY REMINDS ME OF A NOVEL I READ ON THE INTERNET...

WHY IS THAT?

I'M ON FAIRLY GOOD TERMS WITH MY FRIENDS AT SCHOOL.

BUT I CHERISH THE MOMENTS WE SPEND TOGETHER NONETHELESS.

I STILL DON'T SEE MY DAD VERY OFTEN

AND THEN THERE'S...

though I should keep that a secret from my friends...

LATELY, I'VE ALSO BEEN DRAWN INTO WRITING NOVELS ON MY PHONE THEN PUBLISHING THEM TO THE INTERNET. IT'S SO FUN!

HEY THERE, MAO. WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

OH?

WANNA GO GRAB A BITE?

YOU DON'T LIVE IN THIS AREA ANY-MORE, DO YOU?

ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME?

BLAH BLAH BLAH NOPE GO AWAY ALREADY

IS THAT THE ATTITUDE YOU GIVE TO SOMEONE WHO CARES FOR YOU?

ARE YOU LIKE THIS TO OTHER PEOPLE AT SCHOOL TOO?

I'M HERE 'CAUSE I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF SOME STUFF LATER!

TCH, WHY ARE YOU SO NOSY? DON'T TALK TO ME!

MY JOB, HN...

WHY DO YOU TAKE ISSUE WITH EVERY LITTLE THING, HIRO? YOU'RE SO ANNOYING! AND AREN'T YOU HERE BECAUSE OF YOUR JOB? GO TO WORK!!

NOW WHAT'S WITH THAT LANGUAGE!? YOU'RE A GIRL! WATCH THE WAY YOU SPEAK!

OW OW OW OW!

GEEZ, YOU'RE SUCH A BRAT!!

YEAH YEAH, YOU SHOULD GET GOING ALREADY!

OH GOSH... THE CLIENTS I NEED TO PUT UP WITH TODAY...

...Though I don't actually mind him touching my hair.

YOUR PUNISH-MENT.

WAHH! HEY! YOU MESSED UP MY HAIR!

I'D RATHER DIE THAN TELL HIM, "I'M CONCERNED ABOUT YOU, LIVING ALONE AND ALL."

SO INSTEAD, I SWING BY EVERY NOW AND THEN TO CHECK UP ON HIM.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY, BUT I DO CARE ABOUT HIM.

うず うず うず

OH, SO YOU NOTICED MY HAPPY FACE?

WHAT?

YOUR SMILE GROSSES ME OUT.

にやにやにやにやにやにや

HECK, YOU SHOULD COME OVER TO CELEBRATE TOO! WE'RE HAVING CAKE!

YEP! IT'S GONNA BE AWESOME! YOU SHOULD BE HAPPIER FOR US!

OH.

ぱーんぱーんぱーんだ!

GUESS WHAT? MY SISTER'S COMING BACK TO LIVE WITH ME! I'M SO HAPPY!

SO ANYWAY, HOW'S YOUR FAMILY? YOUR STEPMOM MOVED IN, DIDN'T SHE?

THERE YOU GO AGAIN! WHAT DID I JUST TELL YOU ABOUT TALKING LIKE THAT!?

I DON'T LIKE SWEETS! AND CAKE!? EWW! YOU'RE SO GROSS!

HEY NOW, I'M GENUINELY CONCERNED FOR YOU, IDIOT.

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

I GET ALONG WITH HER JUST FINE.

...SHE'S A NICE PERSON. UNLIKE YOU.

.....

SEEYA!

ARGH, YOU—!!

Dealing with the new family is tiring

so once again, I'm home late

Okay!

.....

WHAT A SMART DOG!

I WANT A DOGGY TOO~!

AND BROUGHT THE BALL BACK!

AND THEN AND THEN

THAT KID'S DOGGY STAYED OUTSIDE FOR A WHILE

I'M BACK!

.....

WELCOME HOME.

AH.. ABOUT THAT...

MAO-CHAN, HAVE YOU EATEN YET? WOULD YOU LIKE ANY-THING?

...my seat...

That's...

TCH, YOU SHOULD'VE CALLED US THEN IF YOU ALREADY ATE.

I ALREADY ATE SOME-WHERE ELSE.

=CLICK=

.....

SORRY.

=CLICK=

Yeah so I was saying
Oh yeah that
Mmhm

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

SLIDE

SLIDE

SLIDE

Ahahaha

Yep!

and then
and then

Yay! You're the best, Daddy!

But I'll probably getyelled at if I go out now...

I'm so hungry..

>RUMBLE<

>GROWL<

So that's what happened

Ah ha ha ha

I'M HEAD-ING OUT FOR A BIT...

TAP

TAP

TAP

THE BENTO BOX FROM THE CONVENIENCE STORE

TASTES PRETTY BAD.

BUT I'M REALLY, REALLY HUNGRY.

I'M ON THE VERGE OF TEARS.

MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE

It hurts.

My throat's feeling tighter and tighter.

And I can't taste anything.

MAGYO?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?

OKAY, THAT'S IT. LET'S GO!

.....

.....

HMPH

ARE YOU CRYING?

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? I SAID LET'S GO GET SOMETHING TO EAT.

WHA?

REALLY. I MUST BE MISTAKEN.

I'M NOT CRYING!

.....

どーん

どーん

どーん

OM NOM NOM

AND I LOVE THE HAMBURGER STEAK THEY MAKE HERE.

I'M STILL GROWING!

DON'T YOU EAT A BIT TOO MUCH?

WHY'RE YOU ASKING ME ALL THIS?

=CHOMP=

DO YOU COOK TOGETHER? ARE YOU HAPPY THERE?

WHAT ABOUT THE MEATLOAF YOUR STEPMOM MAKES? IS THAT ANY GOOD?

AH...

NOTHING... IT'S JUST THAT MY SISTER CHANGED HER MIND, SO SHE'S NOT COMING BACK. I FIGURE I'D ASK ABOUT YOUR SITUATION HERE.

...I teased him earlier because

EXCUSE ME?

IT'S 'CAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS SUCH A BIG MEANIE. THAT'S WHY.

THE TRUTH IS... I REALLY ENVY YOUR SISTER.

I'M SORRY.

he was so excited about his sister coming back ...

IS REALLY GOOD.

AH...

THIS HAM-BURGER STEAK

I'VE BEEN SO TENSE AT DINNER LATELY THAT I COULDN'T ENJOY THE TASTE OF ANYTHING.

TASTES DELICIOUS.

THIS

HERE.

RUSTLE

I IMAGINE YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE TO CARRY A HANDKERCHIEF AROUND.

...YEAH, SORRY ABOUT THAT.

NO WORRIES.

YOU KNOW,

I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO GO BACK TO ANYMORE.

NO LONGER EXISTS.

MY PLACE

THEN WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK WITH ME?

WHERE ELSE?

MY HOUSE, OF COURSE.

.....

GO BACK WITH YOU WHERE?

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU PLOTTING? I DON'T GET YOU!! *YOU'RE GROSS!*

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE "THAT'S NOT TRUE!" TO COMFORT ME!

AS FAR AS YOUR OLD MAN IS CONCERNED, WELL, I'LL GIVE HIM A CALL.

カチカチカチ

WAAAH!! OKAY OKAY I'LL GO!

5 4 3 2

SO WHAT'S IT GONNA BE? YOU COMING OR NOT?

I DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL ME THAT!

JUST GO IN AL-READY!

.....

MY SISTER'S ROOM IS PRETTY CLEAN. YOU CAN USE THAT.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

.....

I JUST HAVE TO STICK AROUND YOU, THAT'S IT?

..SO NOW WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING! GO TO SLEEP ALREADY!

I'M ASKING BECAUSE YOU USED TO BE LIKE THAT!

JUST GO SLEEP!!

I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME HERE FOR THAT! RELAX ALREADY!

WUH-WHAA? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

IF YOU'RE FEELING LONELY AND WANT SOME-ONE TO TALK TO, THAT'S FINE WITH ME...

キュ

>TUG<

THE SITUATION TURNED OUT...

KIND OF... AWKWARD...

BUT...

...'NIGHT!

THANKS!

>RUNS AWAY<

IT SMELLS LIKE HINATA...

.....

TODAY...

BUT

Text Memo Edit

It didn't take long for me to fall asleep under the warm blankets that night. I was rather surprised.

改行

挿 置全 残512

絵記 MULTI

確定

文字 機能

太陽の家
タアモ

VOLUME ONE * CHAPTER ONE

Some more remarks...

(1) Scanslation groups that need to grovel for donations should just die off.

(2) A shōjo title in the Mixini lineup? You can blame Kunagisa.

(3) This is my worst translation effort to date for a multitude of reasons.

(4) I spent way too much time on redraws. Ugh.

(5) This is not a high-priority project because I still can't clone myself.

(6) Apparently meatloaf is not the same as a hamburger steak.

(7) My name is not Mixini.

THIS HAS BEEN A *Mixini Studios* PRODUCTION

HTTP://MIXINI.CO.CC/ #MIXINI @ IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

CH.2 The Day When It was Just the Two of Us

I no longer have a home.

I no longer have

a place to return to.

Nobody is waiting for me anyway.

There's nobody

who needs me.

Today's update was just as good!

This is bad. I'm going to cry...

I'll comment on it when I get home

Sorami's style of writing is straight to the point, isn't it?

.....!!

HERE'S A PRESENT I BROUGHT BACK FROM OKINAWA A FEW DAYS AGO.

PLEASE, SHARE IT WITH EVERYONE.

YES?

NAKAMURA -SAN.

迷子 MaigoScans.co.cc
#maigo@irchighway.net

I'm really happy about this...

"Ah, thanks"...?

BOX: NAKAMURA HIRO

Is this where I make a joke?

although, it's unexpectedly indecent.

AH, THANKS.

My solace while I'm at work is...

I'm a 23-year-old entry level programmer.

It's called *House of the Sun*, written by a "Sorami-san."

I find myself completely engrossed whenever I have a chance to read it at work.

It's kind of creepy, so he keeps it a secret from everyone.

...and reading this cellphone novel.

Sugimoto-san's smile...

It's rumored that Sugimoto-san is writing novels under an odd pen name,

so I can't help but think that's she's Sorami-san.

I've been secretly wondering if they're the same person.

The main character feels almost identical to Sugimoto-san.

It'd be nice if they were.

I ate quite a lot

I ACTUALLY HAD BREAKFAST WITH SOMEONE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE, SO I'M NOT THAT HUNGRY YET.

I'm starving

MAN, MY EYES ARE KILLING ME. I CAN'T WAIT FOR LUNCH.

Woah.

"LITTLE SISTER" HUH?

OH, THANKS.

THAT'S GREAT.

OH, SO YOUR LITTLE SISTER HAS FINALLY MOVED BACK IN?

"Little sister"...

They're so cute-♪

That's pretty nice. Aren't little sisters cute?

WELL... SHE'S VERY LOUD

AND LIVELY, I SUPPOSE.

MY LITTLE SISTER, HUH...

Inner Hiro

Ignoring what happened, I have a high-school girl staying at my house!

But it's *Mao!!*

Besides,

And the truth is, it's not like I could leave her alone.

Then again, she used to come around my place so often that she's practically family.

DON'T GIVE ME THAT!! HOLD YOUR BOWL PROPERLY!

Hold it like this

Look,

IT'S HERE.

I WILL! I JUST NEED TO BORROW A UNIFORM FROM A FRIEND.

AND DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT LEAVING THAT FISH!

AND DON'T FORGET TO GO TO SCHOOL LATER.

MAO,

WHAT'S WITH YOUR LEFT HAND?

YOU *COULD'VE* PUT THAT MORE NICELY.

I BET YOU'RE UNPOPULAR WITH THE GIRLS, HUH?

YOU'RE ANNOYING AS HELL, SERIOUSLY.

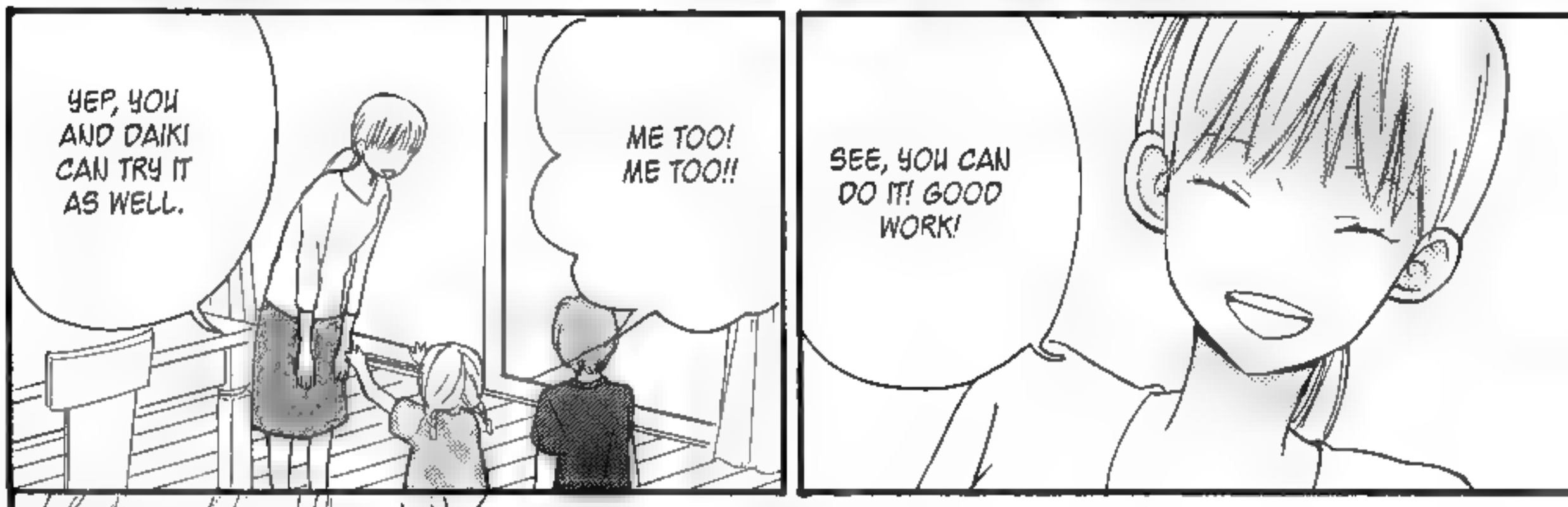
HIRO,

IT'S EASIER THIS WAY!

ALSO, YOU HOLD YOUR CHOPSTICKS WEIRDLY!

"Hiro, before you
start middle school,"

"Why don't we fix
how you hold your chopsticks?"



In other words, he didn't come home all that often

We used to live in an apartment far away from my dad's workplace before we moved to this house.

WE'LL HAVE DINNER TOGETHER AGAIN SOON, OKAY?

DADDY WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT HOME TONIGHT.

DON'T CRY, HINA. LET'S GO MAKE CREAM PUFFS.

bleehhhhh

Whyyyyyyyyy

Waaahhhh

Whaaaat?! Why!? Why whyyy!?

My younger sister, Hina, would stop crying if you agreed to make sweets with her.

Daiki, my younger brother, didn't talk much unless he was playing games.

I thought he must have been lonely.

My grades were decent, and I helped look after my younger siblings.

I think I was a fairly good kid

And me? What can I say,

I'M BACK!

I'M AFRAID YOUR DAD ISN'T GOING TO BE HOME AGAIN TONIGHT.

WELCOME HOME, HIRO.

I WANT TO MOVE.

MOM, I...

It was a really huge request, but...

the only time I had been selfish.

That was

Until then, I hadn't complained

Our parents overcame the impossible They built a large house closer to Dad's company,

which is where I live currently.

LOOK, IT EVEN HAS A LAWN!

HAHAHA, IT SURE DOES.

THIS'LL BE A GREAT PLACE FOR US TO LIVE, RIGHT?

WE'LL ALL BE TOGETHER.

キュッ

DADDY, DOES THIS MEAN YOU'LL BE ABLE TO COME HOME NOW?

YEP, I'LL BE HOME A LOT MORE FROM NOW ON.

I was happy.

Honestly,

I had also

been very lonely.

I think

SHE WAS EATING HER DINNER BY HERSELF AT THE SHRINE.

THE KID ACROSS THE ROAD FROM US IS WEIRD.

Here she is!

I got to know Mao shortly after we had moved.

'KAAAY

BRING HER THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE HER.

That was my first impression of her.

"She looks as though she's fighting back tears."

IT'S MAO!

NOT MAGYO*?

I'M MAO (真魚).

THAT'S THE SHIN (真) FROM SHINJITSU* (真実) PLUS THE KANJI FOR FISH (魚).

*THE NICKNAME COMES FROM THE MORE COMMON READING OF 魚 "GYO"

*真実 (SHIN JITSU) - TRUTH REALITY

WELL, BECAUSE GOD IS THERE.

I THOUGHT GOD MIGHT BE LONELY, SO I WENT TO KEEP HIM COMPANY.

WHY WERE YOU EATING AT THE SHRINE?

DINNER'S READY!

IS THAT SO..?

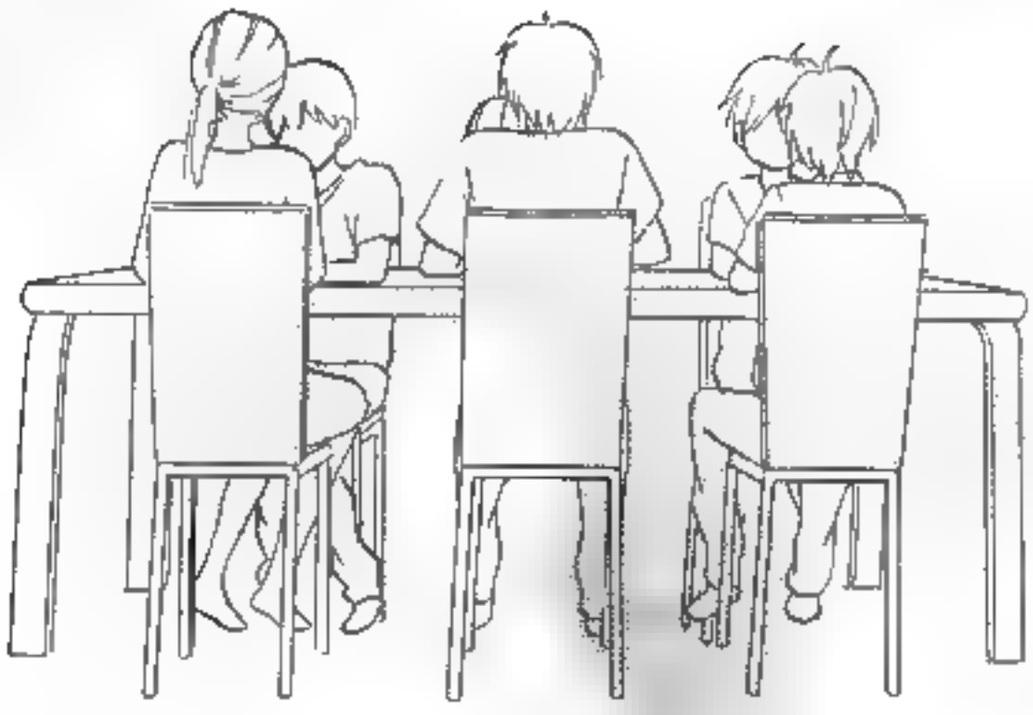
THEY'RE OUT WORKING HARD FOR MY SAKE, SO THEY DON'T COME HOME MUCH.

HUH? WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF YOUR FAMILY?

THEY'RE REALLY GREAT.

From then on,
Mao just kind of
came into our lives.

Before we knew it,
it was like she had become
part of the family.



She smiled!

YOUR HOUSE IS PRETTY LIVELY, HIRO.

MINE IS SO QUIET.

ﾓｸﾓｸ ﾓｸﾓｸ

I ACTUALLY MADE A WISH FOR OUR HOME TO BECOME THIS WAY.

I wished for it, and everyone promised

that we would all be able to be together... to smile again.

That's right.

That's why after our parents died and everyone moved away

I started working, even though I was still in school.

I just couldn't let this place go.

YOUR SISTER AGAIN, HUH? I'LL LEAVE WITH YOU!

I THINK I'M GOING TO HEAD OUT.

MY SISTER...

ugh, my eyes hurt

YEAH, I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT.

It's been like this for some time now.

She hasn't been getting along with her father, has she?

She's h■re again..?

When things were tough for me. Mao would show up around my neighborhood. You could tell that she wanted to help me.

I was pretty relieved when I heard her stepmother moving in.

reminded me how she used to be when we were little.

Seeing her eat by herself at the shrine

I thought I'd make her smile again.

So I invited her to my house, just like old times.

HONESTLY, HAS SHE EVEN SEARCHED PROPERLY?

MY SISTER SENT ME A MESSAGE SHE COULDN'T FIND ANY TOWELS. I WONDER IF SHE'S FOUND THEM YET.

ガタタン

そわそわ

ガタン

Seriously?

ばっ

WHAT?

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GRINNING RIGHT? EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HER? DOES SHE REALLY MAKE YOU THAT HAPPY?

ガタタン

ガタン…

I still feel a bit happy all the same.

This may not be the best way to say it, but...

Certainly, I was a bit glad that I'm able to worry about someone else.

I'm buying more cream puffs than usual...

Even something like that can be fun, can't it?

ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAKE THAT TEN.

AH

When I heard Hina was coming home.

I immediately went to clean up her room like an idiot

THREE CREAM-PUFFS PLEASE.

I'M HOME.

……

WELCOME BACK!

ドサッ

ちゃあ

I STILL COULDN'T FIND ANY TOWELS.

ドサッ!!!

GAH! I'M TRYING TO STAY COOL AROUND YOU, BUT YOU REALLY DRIVE ME CRAZY SOMETIMES!

What do you mean by "cool"?

THEN YOU SHOULD'VE SENT ME ANOTHER MESSAGE!

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEANT BY THE "ON THE RIGHT" PART...

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU IN MY TEXT THAT THEY WERE IN THE BOTTOM OF THE SHELF TO THE RIGHT!

I DON'T LIKE SWEET THINGS.

How many times do I have to tell you?

HUH...

AREN'T CREAM PUFFS *SWEET?*

I BOUGHT SOME CREAM PUFFS. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SOME.

WHERE'D YOU HEAR *THAT?*

DON'T *ALL* GIRLS LIKE SWEET THINGS?

YEAH.

YOU'RE GOING HOME TODAY, RIGHT?

WELL, AT LEAST SHARE THEM WITH YOUR FOLKS.

ME? LONELY!?

YOU'LL GET LONELY THOUGH. I CAN STAY IF YOU WANT.

ACTUALLY, I AM.

JUST A BIT.

...IS WHAT YOUR FAMILY IS PROBABLY THINKING.

WHA-?

DAD?

.....

HERE, GIVE THEM A CALL.

IT'S ME, MAO.

HELLO?

.....

SORRY ABOUT LEAVING SO SUDDENLY YESTERDAY. HIRO INVITED ME OVER FOR THE NIGHT.

TODAY...

YOU LIKE STAYING AT NAKAMURA-SAN'S HOUSE, DON'T YOU?

YOU'VE ALWAYS LIKED IT THERE...

IF YOU LIKE IT SO MUCH, YOU DON'T NEED TO COME BACK.

NOTHING.

JUST GOING TO FETCH MY BAG.

HEY,

WHAT'S WRONG, MAO?

?

She didn't really do a good job of explaining what happened yesterday

How should I say this...

Well, even if she did, it'd be about... that...

So her dad's angry after all?

Mao's acting strange...

AH, OF COURSE.

IS MAO ALL-RIGHT?

I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.

HI, THIS IS NAKAMURA.

DON'T WORRY, I'LL HELP COVER THE EXPENSES.

IF MAO DOESN'T MIND, CAN SHE STAY WITH YOU FOR A WHILE?

WHY HAVE YOU ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS?!

Is that what he told Mao, too?

We have to go to her dad together,

and let them

That he's actually waiting for her.

so she knows that she has a place to return to.

talk this through

That's just how parents are.

STAY HERE AND LIVE WITH ME FOR A WHILE.

MAO,

Huh?
What am
I saying?

WHAT?

I GET ALONG JUST FINE WITH MY MOTHER!

WHATEVER HE SAID, HE LIED!

DID MY DAD SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?

WHY?

THEN STAY HERE AND HAVE DINNER.

BECAUSE IT'LL BE DELICIOUS!!

DO YOU WANT TO TRY A CREAM-PUFF?

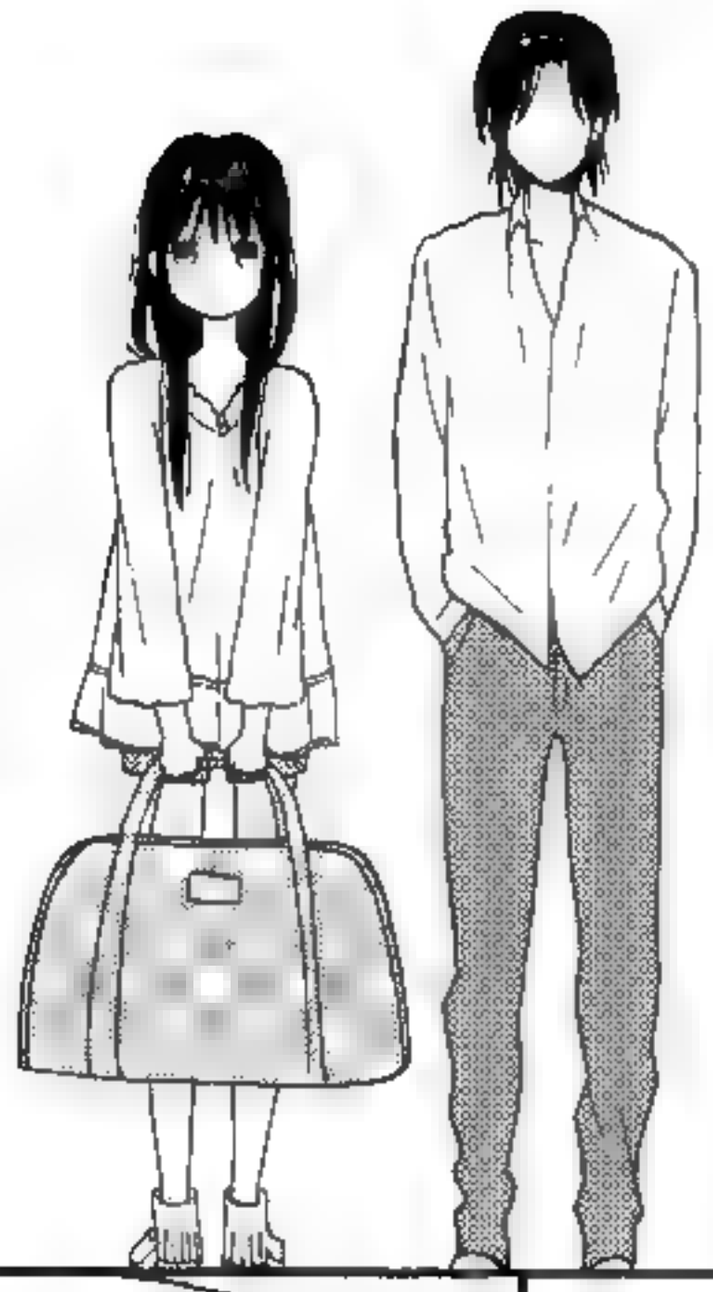
NO.

W-WHAT ARE YOU CRYING FOR?

I'D LIKE SOME DINNER.

I DON'T WANT ONE, BUT...

Mao went to her father's place and returned with him and a large bag.



Late that night,

Before he left, Mao's dad handed me some money and said, "For this month".

It all seemed so natural, as if my sister were coming home.

The urge to yell at him faded.

IT'S MAO!

WELCOME HOME, MAGYO.

I'M HOME.

AH, OF COURSE, YOU HAVE YOUR LITTLE SISTER AT HOME, RIGHT?

I can't get used to this.

YEP.

I'm afraid you'll have to.

AHH... SORRY I CAN'T.

NAKAMURA...

COME DRINK WITH US TODAY.

"I'm back" or "Welcome home"

It's really nice to be able to say

I'M BACK!

I'M BACK...!

where's my welcome home?

?

むぃあぉ

!!

Die..?!

It's like I'm going to die..!!

What's this awful smell..?

It can't be... Mao...

MAO!!

...
WELCOME BACK

MAO, DON'T DIE ON ME!!

.....

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?! WHAT IS THIS STENCH..?!

THANK GOOD-NESS... YOU'RE OKAY...

NO!!

HOLD IT! I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT SOMEHOW.

IT'S ON THE TABLE... THAT SMELL IS ACTUALLY...

IT'S HAMBURGER STEAK.

Ham-burger steak..?!

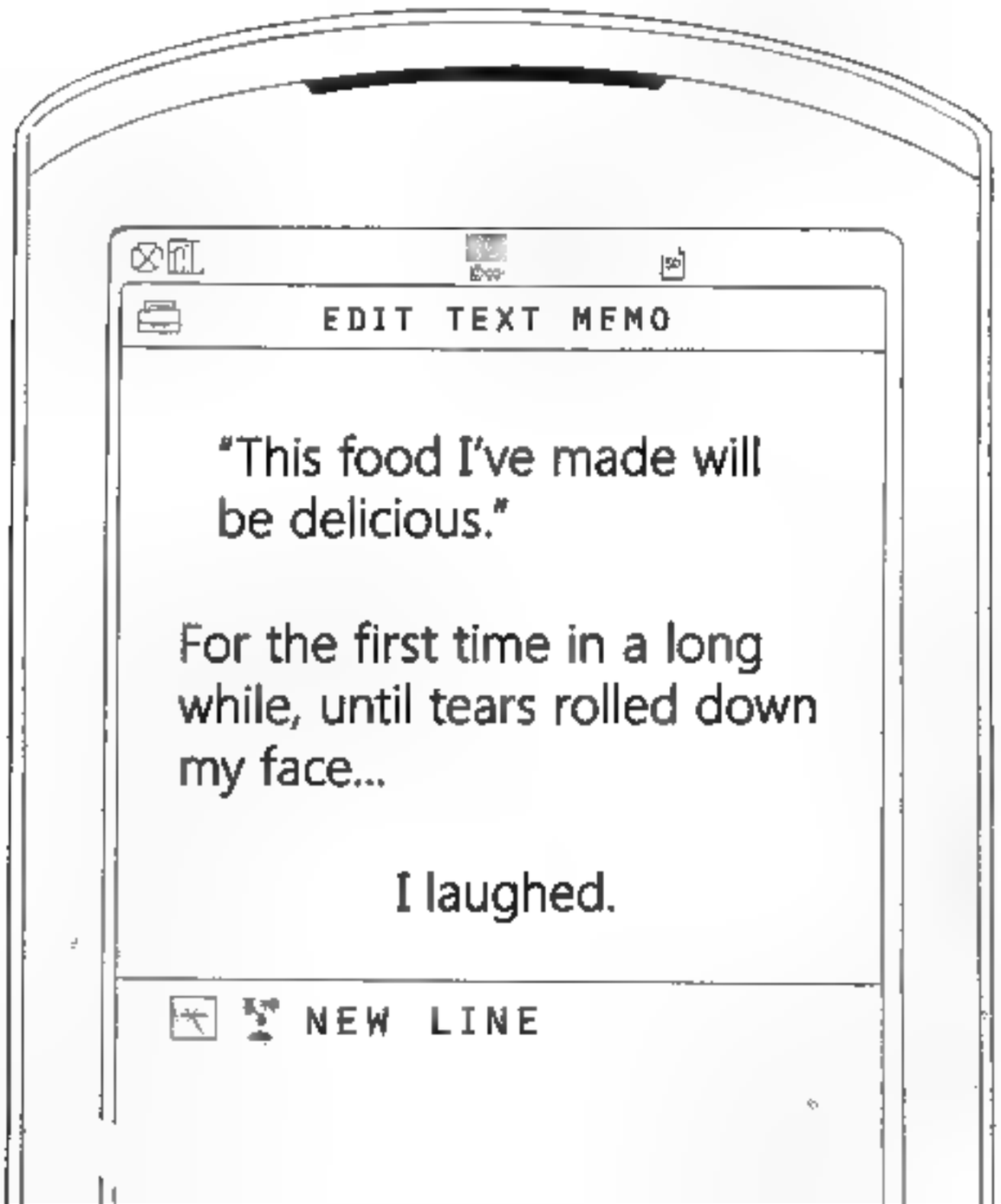
That's..

Do

!!

IT'S MY FIRST TIME MAKING IT! I CAN'T HELP IT! DON'T JUST SIT THERE AND LAUGH WITH SAUCE ON YOUR FACE!
It reeks
Man, this is awful
YOU'RE TERRIBLE AT COOKING.
Bwahahaha

scans *Public* – trans *Jazzu* – cleans *Nin, Kurragi* – type *Kurragi* – quality. *Vexed, aznn3ss, Cheshire*


EDIT TEXT MEMO
"This food I've made will be delicious."
For the first time in a long while, until tears rolled down my face...
I laughed.
NEW LINE

迷子 MaigoScans.co.cc
#maigo@irchighway.net

CHAPTER THREE

Fireworks in April

scans *Public* – trans *Jazzu* – cleans *Sakura-P, imnotamused, nin* – type *ReiM* – quality *aznn3ss, Cheshire, Jiraiza*

LET'S DECIDE ON YOUR CURFEW.

Did you see this family crest?

.....

RIGHT, ARE YOU LISTENING? YOU'RE TO BE HOME BY SEVEN, YOU CAN WATCH TV UNTIL ELEVEN, AND LIGHTS OUT IS AT MIDNIGHT.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE HERE IN THIS HOUSE, YOU'LL HAVE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES.

AHH! YASHICHI JUST APPEARED!!

I'M TURNING OFF THE TV!

I'VE SUMMARIZED EVERYTHING HERE, SO HAVE A READ.

I'VE NO COMPLAINTS WITH YOU CALLING ME ANNOYING OR UNPOPULAR.

...?
I DON'T PARTICULARLY MIND.

YOU'RE ANNOYING!!

IT DOESN'T MATTER, SINCE WE'LL BE CHANGING THE WATER EITHER WAY

YOU REALLY DON'T MIND, HUH?

DON'T GIVE ME THAT NOW, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO ABOUT TAKING A BATH? DO YOU WANT TO GO IN FIRST, OR WOULD YOU RATHER WAIT UNTIL AFTER I'M DONE?

Hiro bathing in the water I've used?!

I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T MIND?

NO WAY!!

WE WON'T BE CHANGING IT, BECAUSE WE SHOULD BE SAVING WATER.

IF YOU PREFER TO BATHE IN FRESH WATER, I'LL GO IN AFTER YOU.

THAT'S ENOUGH MITO KOUMON* FOR NOW.

I'LL PREPARE THE BATH, AND YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF TIDYING UP....

YOU PERVERT!! I'LL DELIVER PUNISHMENT UPON YOU...!!

RIGHT THEN, THAT'S SETTLED.

I'LL GO IN AFTER YOU!!

*Mito Koumon appears to be the name of the TV show Mao was watching in the beginning, and Yashichi is one of the characters.

CAN YOU EVEN MANAGE IT...?

...SPEAKING OF TIDYING UP...

ちゃあ

I HAD THIS ROOM SPOTLESS BEFORE, YOU KNOW.

.....

DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT.

WHY DIDN'T HINA-CHAN EVER COME BACK?

IT'S AN IMPORTANT MATTER, ISN'T IT?

I'M BEING SERIOUS.

SHE WAS ORIGINALLY GOING TO COME BACK DURING HER LAST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL TO TAKE HER HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS. NOW, SHE SAYS SHE WANTS TO STAY WHERE SHE IS FOR AS LONG AS SHE CAN.

HIRO...

MAYBE EVERYONE IS MORE AGAINST LIVING HERE THAN I ORIGINALLY THOUGHT.

WHAT KIND OF MISUNDER-STANDING IS THIS?!

YOU'D BE ALL RIGHT IF YOU WOULD JUST FIX YOUR DESIRE TO BATHE IN BATHWATER THAT'S BEEN USED BY A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL...

I've started living with Hiro.

I mean, otherwise it would be embarrassing.

Is this what a mother is like?

Dinner's ready!

He's so good with the housework that it's a little creepy.

At least I get to wash and air my own underwear.

I wanted to do my own laundry, but Hiro wants us to cut down on our water usage.

Well,
actually he's
more like
a mother

But we're
childhood friends.
and he's like a
big brother to me
There shouldn't be
any reason to get
embarrassed, right?

make your
heart clench
like this?

I see...
So mothers

.....

AH!
I NEED TO
MEMORIZE
THESE RULES!

Those dazzling childhood memories...

'CAUSE I HAVE TO BE HOME BY SIX!

MOM AND DAD ARE GONNA BE ANGRY

MY CURFEW'S FIVE O'CLOCK, SO I'M HEADING HOME.

Dinner should also be eaten together as much as possible.

According to the rules, we're to eat breakfast together, no exceptions.

In the mornings, we'll leave the house together.

Then, we'll pay a visit to the nearby shrine. After that, if he doesn't have to work, we'll head to school together.

MY FIRST CURFEW!!

I wonder how Hiro really feels about things.

The truth is, I haven't really made myself useful since I came to this house.

There're a whole lot of things we have to do together.

OH, YOU'RE BACK?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME BACK IF YOU DON'T WANT TO

he's been saddled with something bothersome

that doesn't think

I wonder if there's a part of him

I've always been a burden.

Up until now.

AAAAAA

GYAA

The turtle's crawling out.

HOW RUDE!

SO IT DIDN'T SNEAK IN?

IT'S WAKABA-CHAN, OUR GREEN-SHELLED TORTOISE.

WHAT A SAD SCENE...

BEING TREATED LIKE A COCKROACH... HOW SAD...

HE'S A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

RIGHT, WAKABA-CHAN?

LATHERING ME WITH YOUR SYMPATHY ISN'T GOING TO MAKE ME HAPPY, YOU KNOW.

YOU REALLY HAVE BEEN LONELY, HAVEN'T YOU HIRO?

MAO!

A KID FROM MY LAST CLASS SAID THAT THE BRASS BAND HAS ALREADY BEEN ASSEMBLED, SO IT'S GOING TO BE DIFFICULT TO GET IN.

I WONDER IF I CAN MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE GIRLS...

FINALLY, IT'S LUNCH-TIME! LET'S EAT TOGETHER!

CHII-CHAN?

.....

LOOK AT US, WE'RE FRIENDS.

OF COURSE YOU CAN.

WHAT'S THIS, ALL OF A SUDDEN?

I'M GLAD THAT THE THREE OF US ARE IN THE SAME CLASS, AGAIN.

YOU TOO, MAO. YOU ALSO HAVE TO MAKE SOME FRIENDS IN THIS CLASS.

THEN I'LL GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT.

YOU CAN'T ALWAYS HOG ME DURING LUNCH-TIME, YOU KNOW.

WE GOT ALONG WELL?

AH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU AND MAO ARE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN, ODA-KUN...

SINCE THE THREE OF US WILL BE ABLE TO GET ALONG, AGAIN.

WHY SO COLD? WE GOT ON JUST GREAT, DIDN'T WE?

HUH?

He loves to act really friendly to pick up the girls.

ODA ALWAYS GETS CARRIED AWAY, SO YOU HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR HIM, MAO!

GET AWAY FROM HER!

OW OW OW OW OW

HM?

OH, MIYAMOTO'S LUNCH LOOKS PRETTY TASTY...

Although it's Hiro.

Oo

Y-YES...

WAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. DID YOU GET A NEW MOTHER?

B-BUT IT'S SOME KIND OF CHEAPSKATE RECIPE MADE FROM YESTERDAY'S LEFTOVERS!

YOUR FACE IS BRIGHT RED!

ME TOO!

SO DO I.

It's a pain isn't it?

I THOUGHT I SAID DON'T BUTT IN.

ME TOO.

YOU STOP BUTTING IN.

HOW NICE... I'VE JUST GOT A BUN.

I'VE GOT TO BE HOME BY SEVEN!

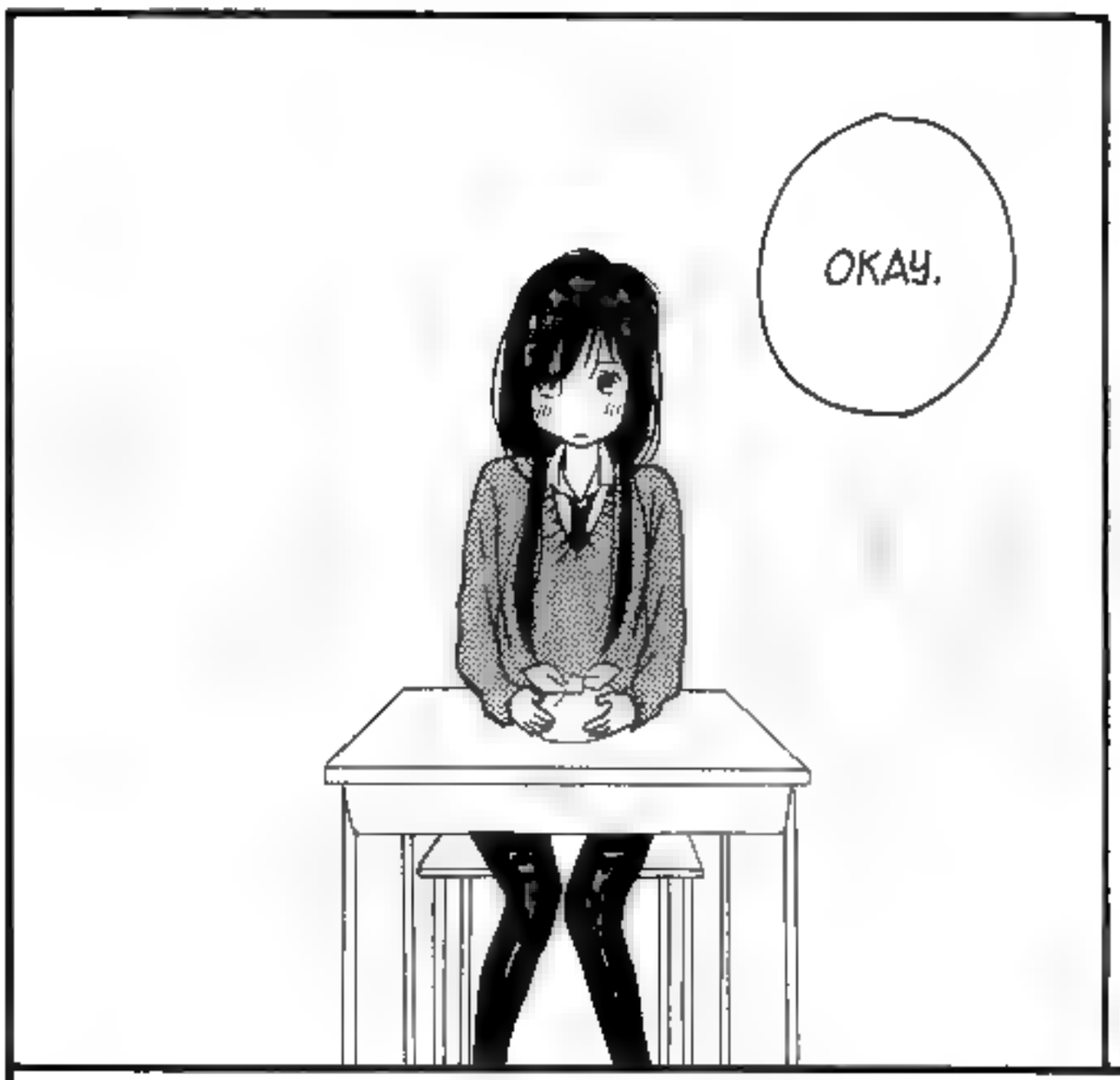
BUT I HAVE A CURFEW AND STUFF!

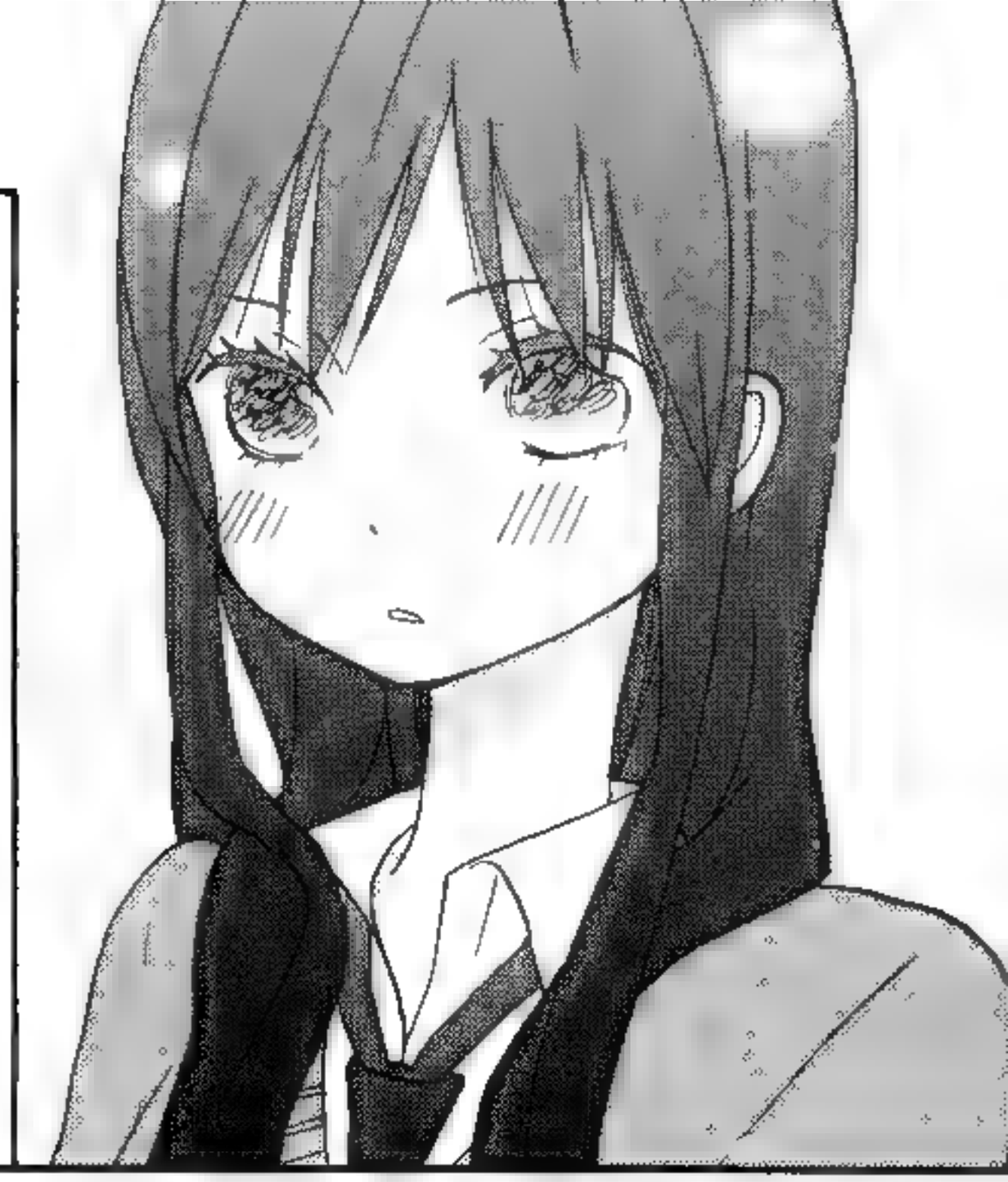
DID YOUR NEW MOTHER ALSO TEACH YOU HOW TO PROPERLY HOLD YOUR CHOPSTICKS?

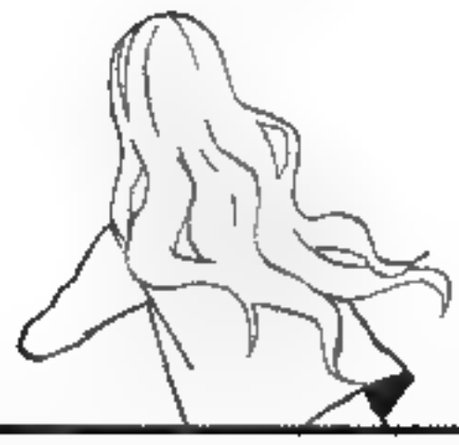
AH, THANK GOODNESS.

YOU'RE TOO UNFAMILIAR WITH PEOPLE BEING NICE TO YOU.

IF YOU EVER HAVE A PROBLEM, COME TALK TO ME.







about my new mother.

I don't know anything

The truth is...

I'm sorry

I've started living together with Takeshi,
a childhood friend of mine
His big dog, Croquette. Him and I,
the three of us, together...

But
Am I really needed here?

...!
There's another comment from Radical-san...

Let's post this update...

Your latest update was also fantastic!!
Kaoru's feelings were so heart-wrenching that my chest clenched.
Could Kaoru's conflicting emotions for Takeshi possibly be love? That's how it feels...!

LOVE!?

Love...?

You're reading too much into it Radical-san

No, that's not it Kaoru's feelings for Takeshi are just maternal... It's nothing like that

How do I reply to this?

YEAH. IT'S JUST STUDENTS FROM THIS CLASS. WE'VE GATHERED LAST YEAR'S LEFT-OVER FIREWORKS. WE'RE GOING TO LIGHT THEM OFF.

A GET-TOGETHER?

.....

.....

COME ON.

DO I REALLY HAVE TO COME?

ALMOST EVERYONE ELSE IS.

COUNT ME IN!

OF COURSE, WE'RE LAUNCHING FIREWORKS. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT?

WILL IT CARRY ON PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK?

LET'S GO TOGETHER, THEN.

NO.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE MEETING PLACE IS?

LOOK, IT'LL BE FINE, JUST COME.

DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE IN CLASS, OTHER THAN ME, THAT YOU'RE CLOSE TO?

HEY...

WE'RE NOT EVEN CLOSE

EH? WHY?

IF THAT'S THE CASE, I DON'T MIND IF YOU COME BACK LATE.

?

BUT I'LL BE BACK BY SEVEN.

I'M GOING OUT TOMORROW. MY CLASS IS GETTING TOGETHER TO HOLD A FIREWORKS DISPLAY,

Is another new historical drama airing?

IS THAT SO?

Are you a kid or something?

I SAID I'LL BE BACK ON TIME, DIDN'T I?!

AND I WILL BE!!

だ〃ん だ〃ん っ!

I'm so happy.

HEY, WHY DON'T YOU TRY ASKING A HUMAN?

OR THIS?

SAY WAKABA, WOULD YOU PICK THIS?

Is she really so happy about a simple gathering?

She's going through her clothes with such glee.

I'm so happy

that I have to be back here by 7 PM.

Someone

like?

SAY, MOTOMIYA...

DO YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU LIKE?

YASHICHI FROM MITO KOUMON.

I'M BEING SERIOUS.

I haven't really thought about it

Why

about something like this?

is he asking

Could those conflicting emotions for the childhood friend possibly be love?

Why am I thinking of this all of a sudden? It's not!

ODA-KUN!

AH! THEY'RE HERE!

DON'T JUST STAND AROUND. COME AND SOCIALIZE!

OI, MOTOMIYA.

OH? LET'S SEE.

LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GOTTEN DAMP, SO WE WON'T BE ABLE TO USE THESE

NO, I'M NOT ANGRY.

YOU'RE NOT ANGRY AT ME ANYMORE?

ABOUT WHAT?

OKAY.

YEAH, IT'S ANNOYING.

REALLY? THAT'S QUITE STRICT.

Making friends!!

I-I'VE GOT TO BE HOME BY SEVEN O'CLOCK.

WHAT TIME SHOULD WE KEEP GOING 'TILL?

IT LOOKS LIKE THE FIREWORKS FROM LAST YEAR REALLY ARE NO GOOD, HUH...

EH?

YEAH... I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY, I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED YOU TO COME ALONG.

WILL YOUR PARENTS BE ANGRY AT YOU? ARE YOU GONNA BE ALRIGHT?

ERR...

THAT'S NOT TRUE...

MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING ELSE.

Y-YEAH.

EVEN SO, YOU STILL WANT TO LIGHT THE FIREWORKS, DON'T YOU?

EVEN THOUGH THESE ARE DUDS.

DAMN, A COP...!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, LIGHTING THEM OUT OF SEASON-!!

HEY-

FIREWORKS ARE FORBIDDEN HERE-!!

THAT'S GREAT. YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO BE HOME BEFORE SEVEN AFTER ALL.

SO, YOU'RE BACK BY FIVE O'CLOCK?

.....

THERE'S A NEW HISTORICAL DRAMA STARTING, ISN'T THERE?

NO, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THAT...

EVERYONE TOLD ME TO COME BACK.

EH?

THEN LET'S GO OUT FOR A BIT, MAO.

.....

I'M STARVING.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

WHAT IS IT?

WHAT A PAIN...

SORRY IT'S ME THAT YOU'RE HAVING A GET-TOGETHER WITH AND NOT YOUR CLASSMATES.

FIREWORKS!

.....

AH, LOOKS LIKE THESE ARE NO GOOD, HUH?

THESE ARE FROM LAST YEAR, SO THEY MAY BE NO GOOD

11°
11°
11°

IT'S LIT.

THE ONES FROM LAST YEAR DON'T WORK.

WE TRIED TO LIGHT THOSE EARLIER.

.....

SO PRETTY.

IT WASN'T THAT I REALLY CARED ABOUT LIGHTING FIREWORKS.

I JUST WANTED TO TRY STICKING TO MY CURFEW.

YOU ALWAYS DO.

カチッ

カチッ

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

ぽっ

WHAT THIS SELFISH PRINCESS IS SAYING.

I DON'T REALLY GET

I see.

You don't understand?

Making you come home by a certain time...

Having someone say that they're waiting for you...

It's the first time I've ever had something like that.

OUR CURFEW IS SEVEN O'CLOCK, AFTER ALL.

RIGHT! LET'S GET CLEANED UP!

EH? ALREADY?! EVEN THOUGH WE JUST GOT HERE?!

YEAH.

Somehow...

.....

THEY SAY IF YOU TELL PEOPLE, IT WON'T COME TRUE.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT THEN.

WHAT DO YOU ALWAYS WISH FOR?

I WISH FOR ALL OF US TO LIVE HAPPILY TOGETHER.

YOU MEAN LIKE ME LEAVING THINGS A MESS?

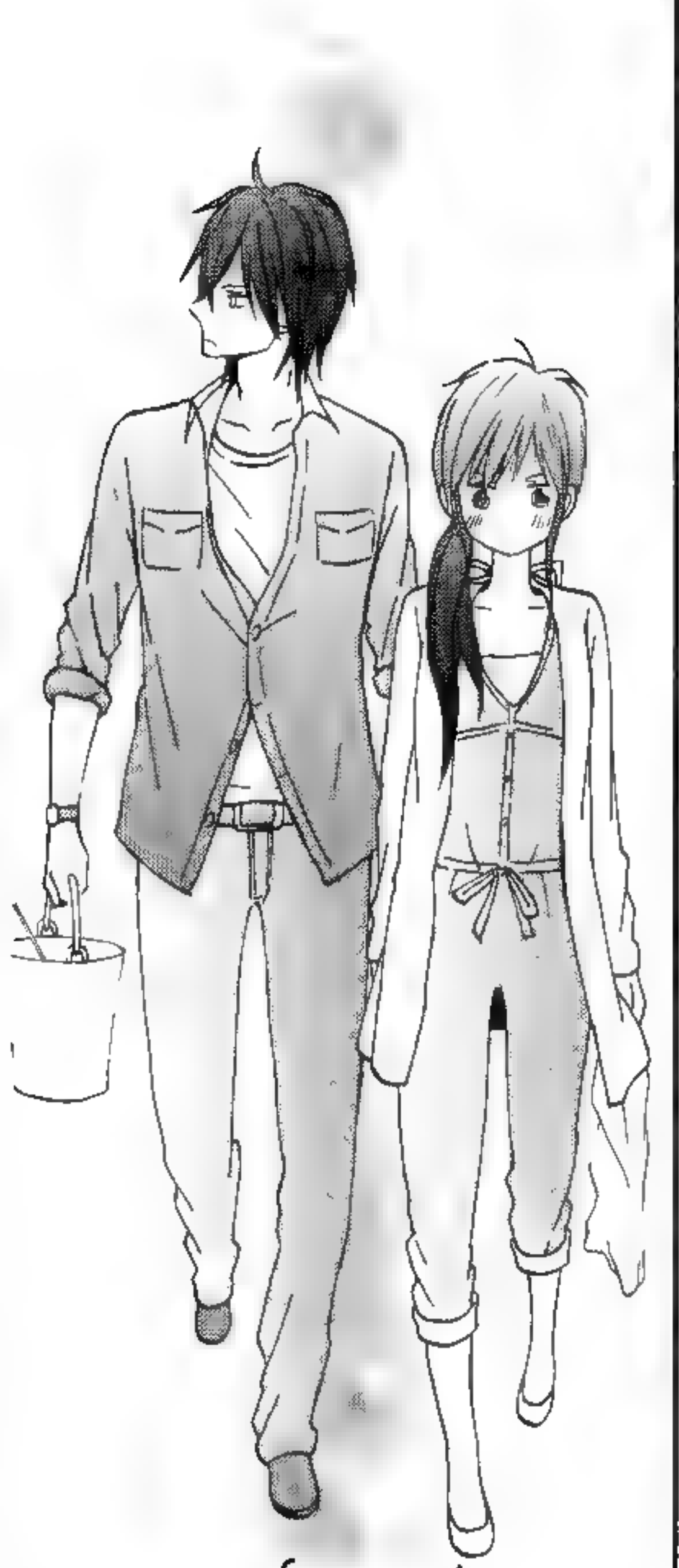
IDIOT. THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

YOU'RE HERE, SO THINGS ARE MORE UPBEAT THAN USUAL.

I'M SAYING THAT I'M HAPPY YOU'RE HERE TO WELCOME ME HOME.

Somehow

It's alright



for me to be here...

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THERE'S NO WAY I LIKE DOING THAT.

It feels strange.

YOU'RE SAYING IT'S NOT A HASSLE TO HAVE ME AROUND?

IT'S NOT 'CAUSE YOU REALLY LIKE TIDYING UP OR SOMETHING?

LET'S NOT TAKE THIS ANY FURTHER.

YOU'RE MAKING ME EMBARRASSED.

.....

OKAY.

IT'S PRETTY DARK.

Huh?

Huh?

Is it normal for childhood friends to hold hands just because it's dark?

Even though
it feels like
we've always been
connected to
each other

today?

feeling
so bothered
about this

Why
am I

I still don't understand
my feelings.

Err...

Err...

Err...

CHAPTER FOUR

A Girl's Confusion

Mao's
acting weird.

迷子 MaigoScans.co.cc
#maigo@irchighway.net

scans Public - trans Jiraiza, aznn3ss
cleans Sakura-Chuu, imnotamused, Naselare - type RelM

She's even eating all of the fish she hates

but then she'll quickly go quiet.

Sometimes she seems like she's going to say something.

She won't look me in the eyes.

Humph!

Could this be the premonition of a disaster?

The strangest thing is that she seems to have cleaned her room!

It still seems kind of messy though....

click click

This client is always changing what he wants...

Uh. I'll finish this up by 1...

click click

click click

Maybe she wants me to buy something for her?

No, no. Maybe she feels guilty about staying at my place?

Let's take a quick break ..

rub rub

Recently I've only been back home for a little bit in the mornings...

Is it even possible to finish something like this with this short a deadline!?

click click

It's 7, huh .? I wonder if Mao already ate?

THERE'S SO MUCH DAMN WORK!!

AH, THAT SITE!

Sorami hasn't updated at all recently

I wonder if something happened

Seriously...!?
Guys who read cellphone novels are usually seen as creepy

Not to mention I was thinking how great this novel is if she was the one that wrote it!!

WHOA!

I SAW IT WHILE I WAS WORKING AND FOUND IT QUITE INTERESTING.

She saw!?

Alright...!!
I managed to smooth it over!

What was that?

BOW

tap tap tap

I'M GLAD.

fuzz fuzz fuzz

What? What?

fuzz

What was that!?

click click click

Let's calm down...

This isn't good... I'm imagining things because I haven't gotten enough sleep...

Maybe it's not just my imagination... Could Sugimoto really be Sorami??

chirp

chirp

Mornings are oddly refreshing. so it's actually kind of sad

Tears are coming out...

crack

The train services are finally starting...

yawn

STOP COMING BACK ALL THE TIME!!

W-WHY ARE YOU HERE AGAIN...!

YOU EAT BREAKFAST, SLEEP A LITTLE, AND THEN GO STRAIGHT BACK TO WORK!

DON'T GIVE ME THAT!

AREN'T YOU BUSY!?

MORNING.

BREAKFAST IS READY.

NO, I DON'T THINK THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.

I CAN AT LEAST MAKE BREAKFAST TOO!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE LUNCH FOR ME EITHER. I CAN JUST BUY BREAD.

NO, I'M NOT.

WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN? ARE YOU TRYING TO BE POLITE?

ANYWAY, STOP COMING BACK AND PUSHING YOURSELF SO HARD!!

.....

Mao is definitely acting weird.

I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

AND MAKING LUNCHBOXES SAVES MONEY.

I ACTUALLY DO WANT TO EAT RICE, YOU KNOW.

IT'S FINE, JUST LET ME DO IT.

WHOA!!

DON'T TOUCH ME——!

plop

THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT.

THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD.

What in the world? I don't get her at all

.....

chew

chew

This girl

She's really bad at hiding it

Is she going to cry?

Why do you look like you're going to cry?

Wouldn't it be lonely

To not even eat together?

Even though we're finally together...

EVEN THOUGH YOU ALREADY ARE.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO ALWAYS TAKE CARE OF ME.

IT'S JUST...

rub rub

WHEN ARE THOSE TWO COMING BACK?

WHEN DAIKI AND HINA COME BACK, IT'LL BE EVEN MORE HECTIC.

LIKE I WOULD GIVE UP WITH JUST THIS MUCH.

I STILL DON'T KNOW YET. ALTHOUGH I WANT TO LIVE WITH EVERYONE, I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT IT.

THEY HAVE THEIR OWN LIVES TO WORRY ABOUT TOO.

IF YOU DON'T SAY IT PROPERLY...

THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND.

"I WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER."

HIRO, DIDN'T YOU SAY THIS?

I think I did.

But not quite that clearly

Did I not say it to those two?

Because I thought wanting to live together was only natural

THANKS.

IT WAS DELICIOUS.

THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD.

IS REALLY...

I ALSO DIDN'T TELL YOU SOMETHING, BUT...

BEING ABLE TO EAT TOGETHER...

GO AHEAD!

I'M GOING TO GO CHANGE!

.....

Huh?

That's right

I should probably tell them that Mao's living here too...

But that's true I should properly tell Daiki and Hina

Then again, I'll pass for today

GLOOM

IT SHOULD BE BETTER THAN USUAL...!

I TRIED MAKING BREAKFAST TODAY!

THAT'S TRUE, BUT IT'S DEFINITELY STILL BLACK...

WELCOME BACK-!

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?

I-I'M BACK...

THERE'S STILL MORE!?

AND ALSO...

I-I TRIED DOING THE LAUNDRY TOO.

It seems kind of sloppy...

It seems kind of messy...

I ALSO TRIED TO CLEAN UP...!

WHAT TIME DID YOU WAKE UP? IT'S STILL ONLY 6, YOU KNOW.

GO SLEEP WHILE I MAKE BREAKFAST.

JUST HOW LOW ARE YOUR STANDARDS...?

you should have just bought one at the very start...

I TRIED MAKING A LUNCHBOX TOO BUT THAT WAS A FAILURE, SO I WENT OUT AND BOUGHT ONE.

I'M OFF!!

YEAH, GET GOING!

It's fine, you know

I'M ALREADY WIDE AWAKE.

ecstatic

THEN, WATCH CAREFULLY.

Hey!

SHE FORGOT TO BRING THE LUNCH THAT SHE BOUGHT!

You don't have to do this for me...

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

To Daiki
To Hina
Sub Subject
Attachment
Text

It's been a while.
Doing well?

And
she's not
picking up!

RIIING

To Magyo
Sub Subject
Attachment
Text

You forgot your
lunchbox, dummy

And
send...

Even though they're family,
"It's been a while"
since I've contacted them,
so I'm a bit nervous

To Daiki
To Hina
Sub Subject
Attachment
Text

It's been a while.
Doing well?

It's
a bit...

Laughable.

I'M BACK! I SAW YOUR TEXT!

PATTER

PATTER

It's fine.

Even if you don't do anything...

It's fine.

You don't have to wake up early and fry eggs...

That's why I ...

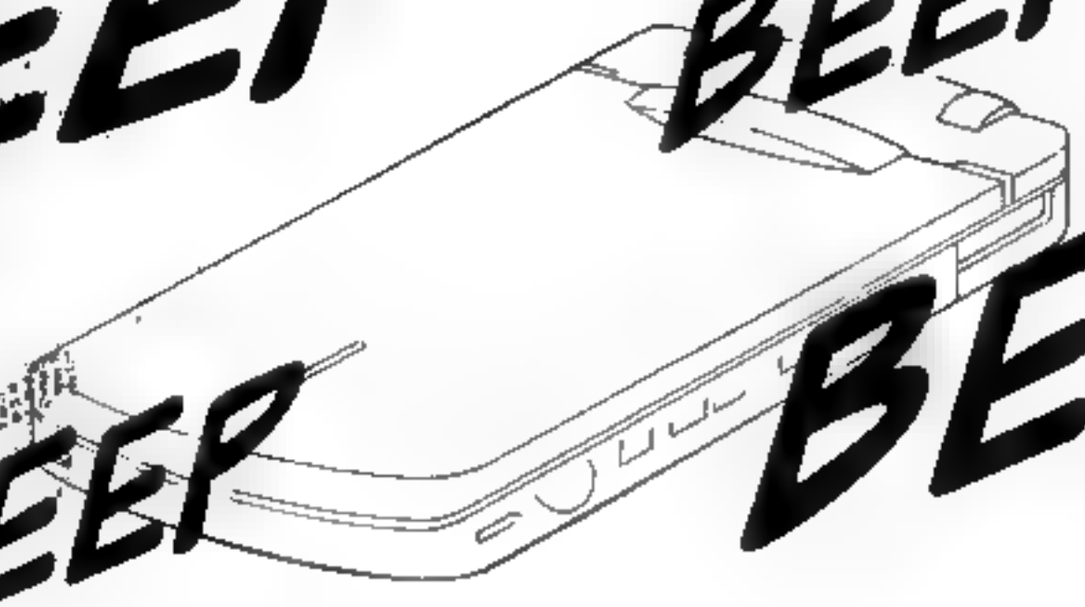
As long as you're here with me...

It's somehow really warm.

I want to come back to this house.

You feel the same, right?

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP



.....

...MM.

MAO?

UWA!! IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE...

GLOOM GLOOM GLOOM

WE DON'T KNOW WHEN THE CLIENT'S GOING TO MAKE EXTRA REQUESTS EITHER.

WE HAVE TO CHECK FOR BUGS, SO WE CAN'T GO HOME.

YEAH, THAT'S TRUE.

I GUESS NAKAMURA CAN'T GO HOME EITHER IF THE TRAINS AREN'T RUNNING.

I'M SLEEPY...

AH, THIS IS REALLY TOUGH.

GLOOM GLOOM GLOOM

I DIDN'T GET TO TAKE A BATH YESTERDAY TOO...

My head is itchy

HEY. IF I GET BACK BEFORE 8, WE'LL BE OKAY RIGHT?

AH? YEAH.

She'll get annoyed.

STILL, YOU'RE SENDING TOO MANY TEXTS.

See?

SHE BARELY RESPONDS TOO.

MY LITTLE SISTER CAN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL, SO I'M WORRIED.

That Mao has been acting weird recently, so I'm really worried.

But still, I didn't get any replies at all today.

irritated

irritated

Since I don't have time, I should buy something

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

I'M GOING TO GO HOME, EAT FOR A BIT, AND COME BACK!

EEEH~~? HEY~~

Mito Komon is on today, isn't it?

I guess we can't watch it together

FOUR CREAMPUFFS PLEASE.

I have to text Mao and tell her that I'm coming back

What a shame.

MA...

I'll probably just be a nuisance if I call out to her now.

Rather than that...

Who the heck is that huh?

I see.

So that's how it is...

I'll just pretend I didn't see anything and head home

That's a shame.

it's actually Hiro though.

IT'S ABOUT MY MOM...

LIKE I SAID, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

LET'S HEAR IT.

ARE YOU SURE I CAN HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

OH, YOU SAID SHE WAS REMARRYING, RIGHT?

I shouldn't get my hopes up.

I SEE.

YEAH...

AFTER THAT... I WANT TO KEEP LOOKING AT HER...

EVEN THOUGH A WHILE BACK I THOUGHT HOLDING HANDS WAS SOMETHING REALLY NORMAL TO DO...

RECENTLY, MY HEART'S BEEN BEATING LIKE CRAZY...

HUH?

WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER, BUT STILL... DO YOU THINK IT'S KIND OF CREEPY TO FEEL LIKE THIS?

AND ALSO, I REALLY WANT TO BE AROUND HER.

THAT SEEMS MORE LIKE LOVE TO ME.

RATHER THAN CREEPY...

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU HAD A MOM, RIGHT?

I WOULDN'T CALL IT "LOVE" IF IT'S REGARDING YOUR MOM THOUGH.

JUST LIKE I THOUGHT. SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...

I'VE ALWAYS HAD A MOM THOUGH, SO I DON'T REALLY GET IT.

WOULDN'T IT BE A GOOD IDEA TO TELL HER ABOUT THE FEELINGS YOU HAVE NOW?

I THINK WANTING TO GET ALONG WELL WITH YOUR MOM IS A GREAT THING.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

I DON'T KNOW.

I HOPE IT GOES WELL.

I'M BACK!

YOU WANT ME TO SAY IT FROM HERE?

I'm home!

BADUMP

Badump

IF YOU WERE HOME, SAY SO!!

Badump

FOOD'S READY.

Grin Grin

Grin Grin

SURPRISED

EH... UWA!!

YEAH, I WAS REALLY WORRIED THOUGH...

IF MAGYO HAS A BOYFRIEND, THEN I CAN RELAX A LITTLE.

YEAH, BUT I'LL BE GOING BACK SOON.

AREN'T YOU EARLY TODAY?

IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL BE FINE EVEN IF YOU DON'T COME BACK...

grin

I SAW YOU, MAO.

WALKING WITH A GUY, THAT IS.

grin

grin

?

grin

!!

THEN ARE YOU GOING TO START DATING?

THAT'S NOT IT!

THAT WAS YOUR BOYFRIEND, RIGHT!?

LIKE I SAID, THAT ISN'T IT!!

grin

grin

HIRO, YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A DAD.

DON'T BE SHY. THAT'S THE GUY YOU LIKE, RIGHT?

I KNOW, RIGHT?

.....

BUT SERIOUSLY SPEAKING, INTRODUCE HIM TO ME.

IT COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS IF HE MISUNDERSTANDS OUR RELATIONSHIP, RIGHT?

HIRO, YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I LIKE...!

Eh?

Sorry...?
But she
looks angry...?
Maybe...
it was a joke?

SORRY...!!

.....

She likes ME!?
Seriously!?

Please say
something !!

.....

OKAY!?

ANYWAY LET'S EAT FIRST.

IT'S ALL BOUGHT STUFF THOUGH.

I was sure Mao felt the same way.

Up until now...

What should I do? She's not saying anything either.

I know!!

I've only thought of Mao as a little sister.

I'M REALLY GRATEFUL.

THEY HAVEN'T REPLIED YET, BUT I'M REALLY RELIEVED.

THANKS TO WHAT YOU TOLD ME, I WAS ABLE TO SEND A TEXT TO DAIKI AND HINA.

Please say something already~.

.....

IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO LIVE HERE?

Saying she liked me was a joke after all...

...NOT THAT.

ISN'T IT CREEPY?

AH, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHEN DAIKI AND HINA ARE COMING BACK, SO...

EH?

OF COURSE IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO STAY HERE.

ARE YOU STUPID!!?

WHY WOULD I FEEL THAT YOU'RE CREEPY JUST BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU LIKE ME!?

I DON'T HAVE A PLACE TO RETURN TO AFTER ALL.

I'M GLAD.

Would be very high on the list.

Surprisingly, Mao being a crybaby...

OKAY.

I'LL BE GOING.

If I were to order the things I learned about Mao after living with her...

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

Hm.

"Hiro,
you're the one
that I like!"

Ha—

—3

FLIP

What
should I do?

Now then...

Frm Daiki
Sub Re: Long time no see

I'll come back for a bit next break.
But I'm against having Mao living
with us there.

She wouldn't cry
even when she got lost
or when her goldfish died.

There was a girl
who would never cry
despite being so small.

Extra

The Girl That Doesn't Cry

scans *Public* – trans *Jiraiza* cleans *imnotamused, ruruzia, Sakura-chuu* – type *ReIM*

IT'S FINE.
IS YOUR BEAR OKAY? IT'S IMPORTANT, RIGHT?
WAAAAH
APOLOGIZE!
HINA! JUST BECAUSE YOU WANT IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD BE DOING THAT!

She didn't
even cry either
when the only
stuffed bear
she received
from her dad
got ripped.

I SEE...

MOM AND DAD START FIGHTING. SO IN ORDER FOR THEM TO GET ALONG, I DON'T CRY.

WHEN I CRY,

THEY'LL TELL ME "HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO CARRY THIS?",

SO I'LL GIVE IT YOU, HINA.

EVEN IF I DON'T HAVE IT, I'LL BE OKAY.

It was a day like that.

She didn't cry even if she fell down or felt lonely.

.....

But she looked a little bit lonely.

LOOK!

MAO,

EEEH~

I DON'T NEED IT.

TA-DA! MOM FIXED IT FOR YOU!

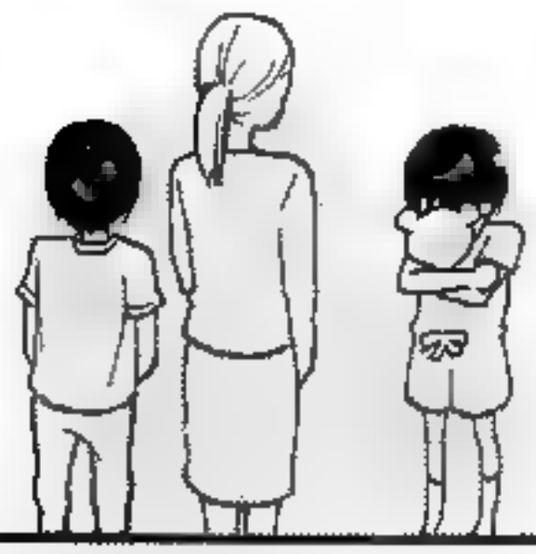
Aren't you glad?

SINCE YOU WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF TAKING CARE OF HIM UP UNTIL NOW, KEEP ON DOING SO FROM NOW ON.

MAO.

GOOD GIRL!

YOU KEPT FROM CRYING BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO HURT HINA, RIGHT?

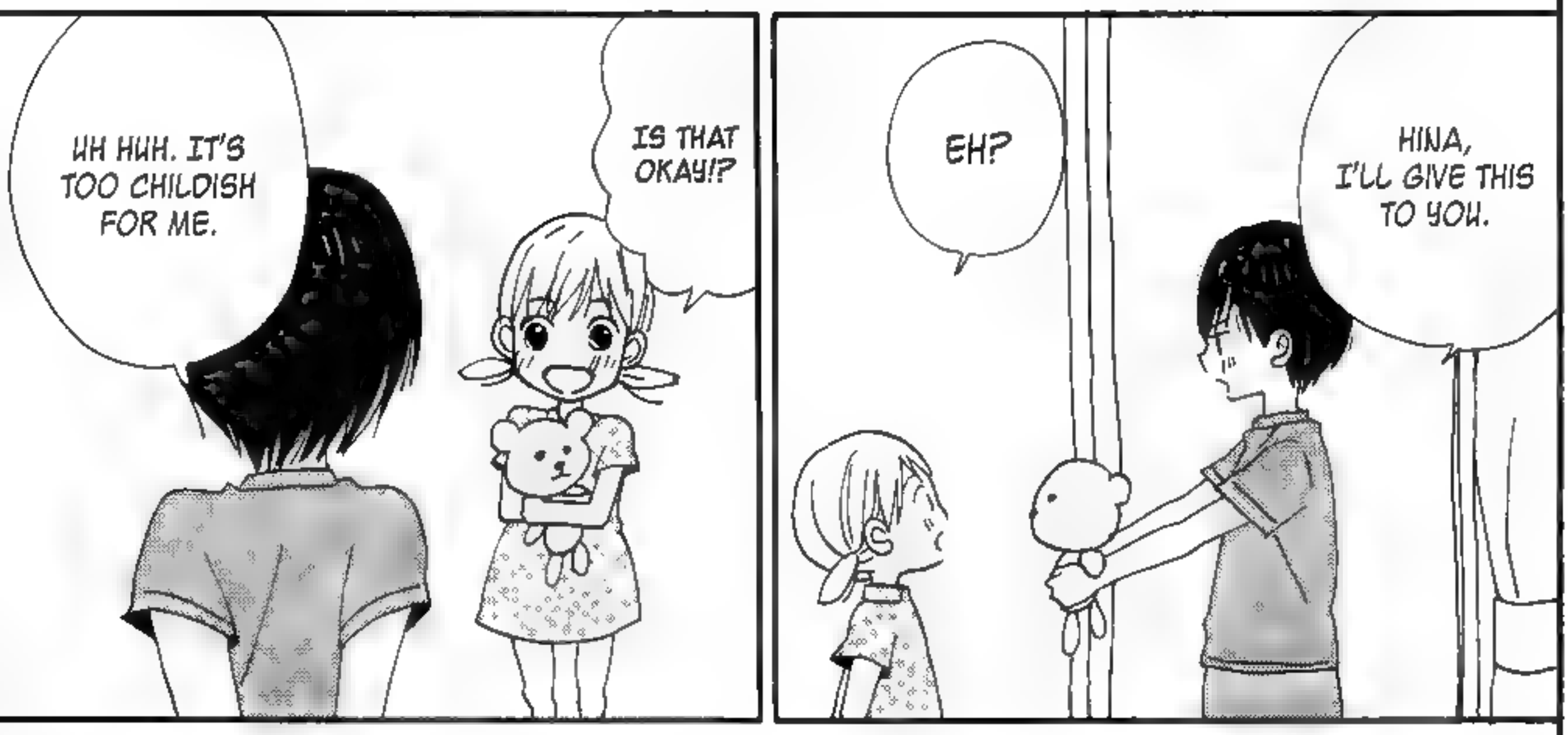


Since then,
just for a bit,
she continued
to cry.

It was
as if
the lid was
taken off.

On the other hand, she was able to laugh more.

Ever since then, she was able to cry a little bit more.



This time, she won't be lonely anymore.

Extra/END

迷子 MaigoScans.co.cc
#maigo@irchighway.net

フレザーにしてしまったけど
セーラー服も好きです。
制服が好きです。
あとタイツ

2巻も宜しくお願いします！

ヤマモ

♥この本を読んだご感想・ご意見をお聞かせください。

♥また、いままでに読んだ少女まんがの中で、KCにしてほしい作品・作家などがありましたら「読後の感想」と併せてお知らせください。

♥なお、お送りいただいたお手紙・おハガキは、ご記入いただいた個人情報を含めて著者にお渡しすることがありますので、あらかじめご了解のうえ、お送りください。

＝あて先＝

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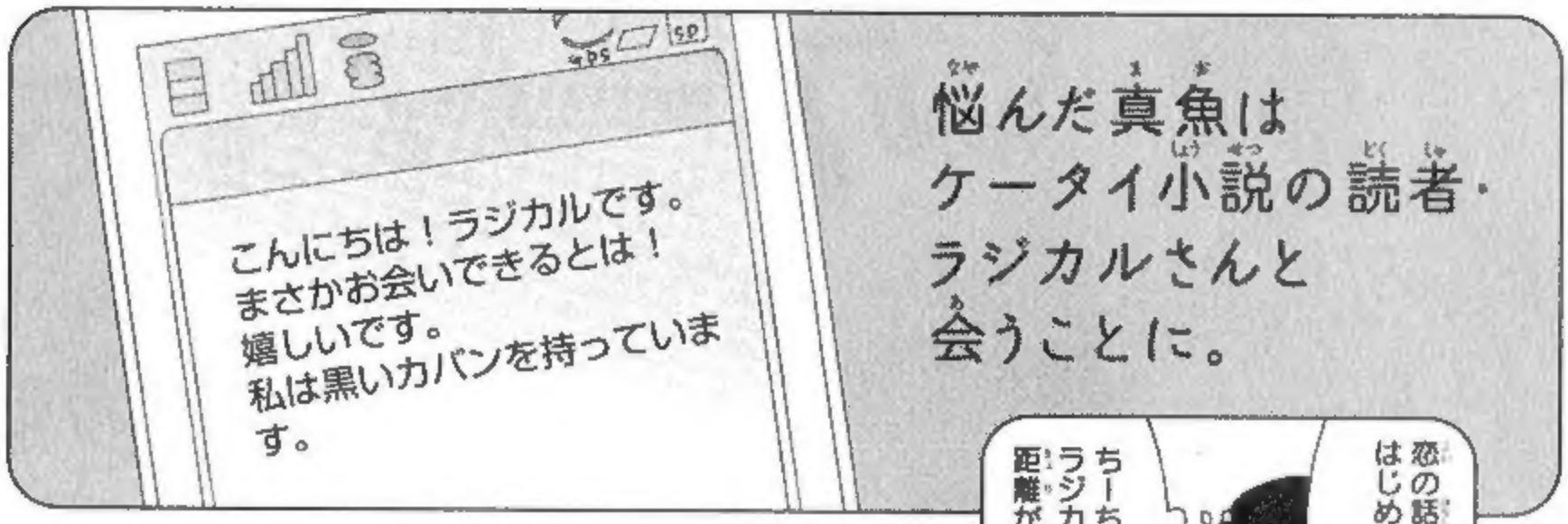
next issue 次巻予告 だし！

基が「好き」だと告げてしまった真魚…。

一緒に暮らし続けるため、想いをこらえようとするけど――

やはりこらえられない――！



少し心が楽になる真魚…。

しかし――――！

基の弟・大樹が帰ってきて、

波乱の予感が!!?

たいようのいえ
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